

## Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of managing information, said method comprising:

5 identifying information to be managed; and

managing the information within a public electronic environment, wherein one or more aspects of managing the information traditionally performed within a private electronic environment are performed within the public electronic environment off-line from the private electronic environment.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the information comprises a proposal for a contract.

15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said managing comprises creating the information.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the information comprises a proposal for a contract, and the creating comprises entering data for the proposal.

20 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising obtaining one or more data from the private electronic environment to be used in creating the proposal.

YOR920000593US1

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the creating further comprises negotiating one or more terms of the proposal, while disconnected from the private electronic environment.

5 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said managing comprises maintaining the information.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said managing comprises obtaining status relating to the information.

10 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising registering the information with the private electronic environment.

15 10. The method of claim 9, wherein said managing comprises requesting approval of the information, and wherein said registering is performed in response to the approval.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein said registering is performed in real-time.

20 12. The method of claim 9, wherein the information comprises a proposal, and wherein the registering comprises registering the proposal with the private electronic environment to form a contract.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the managing comprises administering the contract.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the managing comprises obtaining a report associated with the information.

5 15. The method of claim 1, wherein the private electronic environment comprises a server executing an enterprise resource planning system.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a server executing a web portal.

10 17. The method of claim 1, further comprising pre-fetching data from said private electronic environment to be used in the managing of said information.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising storing said data within said public electronic environment.

19. A method of managing the creation of a proposal,  
said method comprising:

obtaining data for said proposal from a  
private electronic environment;

5           creating said proposal at a public electronic  
environment disconnected from said private  
electronic environment, said creating using at  
least a portion of the obtained data; and

10           providing said proposal to said private  
electronic environment.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising  
approving said proposal, prior to providing said proposal to  
said private electronic environment.

15           21. The method of claim 20, wherein said providing  
comprises registering said proposal with said private  
electronic environment, subsequent to said approval, wherein  
said proposal becomes a contract.

20           22. The method of claim 19, wherein said creating said  
proposal comprises negotiating one or more terms of said  
proposal.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein said public  
electronic environment comprises a web server.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein said private electronic environment comprises a server protected by one or more fire walls.

25. The method of claim 19, wherein said proposal  
5 comprises a proposal for a sales contract.

26. A system of managing information, said system comprising:

information to be managed; and

means for managing the information within a public electronic environment, wherein one or more aspects of managing the information traditionally performed within a private electronic environment are performed within the public electronic environment off-line from the private electronic environment.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein the information comprises a proposal for a contract.

28. The system of claim 26, wherein said means for managing comprises means for creating the information.

29. The system of claim 28, wherein the information comprises a proposal for a contract, and the means for creating comprises means for entering data for the proposal.

30. The system of claim 29, further comprising means for obtaining one or more data from the private electronic environment to be used in creating the proposal.

31. The system of claim 29, wherein the means for creating further comprises means for negotiating one or more terms of the proposal, while disconnected from the private electronic environment.

5 32. The system of claim 26, wherein said means for managing comprises means for maintaining the information.

33. The system of claim 26, wherein said means for managing comprises means for obtaining status relating to the information.

10 34. The system of claim 26, further comprising means for registering the information with the private electronic environment.

15 35. The system of claim 34, wherein said means for managing comprises means for requesting approval of the information, and wherein the registering is performed in response to the approval.

36. The system of claim 34, wherein the registering is performed in real-time.

20 37. The system of claim 34, wherein the information comprises a proposal, and wherein the means for registering comprises means for registering the proposal with the private electronic environment to form a contract.

38. The system of claim 37, wherein the means for managing comprises means for administering the contract.

39. The system of claim 26, wherein the means for managing comprises means for obtaining a report associated with the information.

40. The system of claim 26, wherein the private electronic environment comprises a server executing an enterprise resource planning system.

41. The system of claim 26, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a server executing a web portal.

42. The system of claim 26, further comprising means for pre-fetching data from said private electronic environment to be used in the managing of said information.

43. The system of claim 42, further comprising means for storing said data within said public electronic environment.



44. A system of managing the creation of a proposal,  
said system comprising:

means for obtaining data for said proposal  
from a private electronic environment;

5 means for creating said proposal at a public  
electronic environment disconnected from said  
private electronic environment, said means for  
creating using at least a portion of the obtained  
data; and

10 means for providing said proposal to said  
private electronic environment.

45. The system of claim 44, further comprising means  
for approving said proposal, prior to providing said  
proposal to said private electronic environment.

15 46. The system of claim 45, wherein said means for  
providing comprises means for registering said proposal with  
said private electronic environment, subsequent to said  
approval, wherein said proposal becomes a contract.

20 47. The system of claim 44, wherein said means for  
creating said proposal comprises means for negotiating one  
or more terms of said proposal.

48. The system of claim 44, wherein said public  
electronic environment comprises a web server.

Am

5

Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	

51. A system of managing information, said system comprising:

information to be managed; and

a public electronic environment adapted to manage the information, wherein one or more aspects of managing the information traditionally performed within a private electronic environment are performed within the public electronic environment off-line from the private electronic environment.

5

10

52. A system of managing the creation of a proposal,  
said system comprising:

data for said proposal obtained from a  
private electronic environment;

5

a public electronic environment adapted to  
create said proposal disconnected from said  
private electronic environment, said public  
electronic environment using at least a portion of  
the obtained data; and

10

a private electronic environment adapted to  
receive the proposal.

53. At least one program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method of managing information, said method comprising:

5 identifying information to be managed; and

managing the information within a public electronic environment, wherein one or more aspects of managing the information traditionally performed within a private electronic environment are performed within the public electronic environment off-line from the private electronic environment.

54. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein the information comprises a proposal for a contract.

55. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein said managing comprises creating the information.

56. The at least one program storage device of claim 55, wherein the information comprises a proposal for a contract, and the creating comprises entering data for the proposal.

57. The at least one program storage device of claim 56, wherein said method further comprises obtaining one or more data from the private electronic environment to be used in creating the proposal.

5 58. The at least one program storage device of claim 56, wherein the creating further comprises negotiating one or more terms of the proposal, while disconnected from the private electronic environment.

10 59. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein said managing comprises maintaining the information.

60. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein said managing comprises obtaining status relating to the information.

15 61. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein said method further comprises registering the information with the private electronic environment.

20 62. The at least one program storage device of claim 61, wherein said managing comprises requesting approval of the information, and wherein said registering is performed in response to the approval.

63. The at least one program storage device of claim 61, wherein said registering is performed in real-time.

64. The at least one program storage device of claim 61, wherein the information comprises a proposal, and wherein the registering comprises registering the proposal with the private electronic environment to form a contract.

5        65. The at least one program storage device of claim 64, wherein the managing comprises administering the contract.

10       66. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein the managing comprises obtaining a report associated with the information.

67. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein the private electronic environment comprises a server executing an enterprise resource planning system.

15       68. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein the public electronic environment comprises a server executing a web portal.

20       69. The at least one program storage device of claim 53, wherein said method further comprises pre-fetching data from said private electronic environment to be used in the managing of said information.

70. The at least one program storage device of claim 69, wherein said method further comprises storing said data within said public electronic environment.

71. An article of manufacture, comprising:

at least one computer usable medium having  
computer readable program code means embodied  
therein for causing the managing of the creation  
of a proposal, the computer readable program code  
means in said article of manufacture comprising:

computer readable program code means for  
causing a computer to obtain data for said  
proposal from a private electronic  
environment;

computer readable program code means for  
causing a computer to create said proposal at  
a public electronic environment disconnected  
from said private electronic environment,  
said computer readable program code means for  
causing a computer to create using at least a  
portion of the obtained data; and

computer readable program code means for  
causing a computer to provide said proposal  
to said private electronic environment.

72. The article of manufacture of claim 71, further  
comprising computer readable program code means for causing  
a computer to approve said proposal, prior to providing said  
proposal to said private electronic environment.



73. The article of manufacture of claim 72, wherein  
said computer readable program code means for causing a  
computer to provide comprises computer readable program code  
means for causing a computer to register said proposal with  
5 said private electronic environment, subsequent to said  
approval, wherein said proposal becomes a contract.

74. The article of manufacture of claim 71, wherein  
said public electronic environment comprises a web server.

75. The article of manufacture of claim 71, wherein  
10 said private electronic environment comprises a server  
protected by one or more fire walls.

76. The article of manufacture of claim 71, wherein  
said proposal comprises a proposal for a sales contract.

\* \* \* \* \*